Appl. No. 09/767,558

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): A melt-spun polysulfone semipermeable membrane, the melt-spun polysulfone semipermeable membrane consisting essentially of a polysulfone compound and a solvent for the polysulfone compound wherein the melt-spun polysulfone semipermeable membrane has a homogeneous structure such that the melt-spun polysulfone semipermeable membrane has a substantially uniform pore structure throughout a thickness of the melt-spun polysulfone semipermeable membrane; wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of tetramethylene sulfone, antipyridine, δ -valerolactam, diethyl phthalate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The melt-spun polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 19, wherein the polysulfone compound is selected from the group consisting of a polyarylsulfone compound, bisphenol A polysulfone, polyether polysulfone, polyphenyl polysulfone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (previously presented): A polysulfone semipermeable membrane defined by a composition consisting essentially of a mixture of a polysulfone compound, a solvent for the polysulfone compound, and a non-solvent for the polysulfone compound wherein the mixture has been melt-spun allowing a homogeneous structure to be formed such that the polysulfone semipermeable membrane has a substantially uniform pore structure throughout a thickness of the polysulfone semipermeable membrane.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 22, wherein the polysulfone compound is selected from the group consisting of a polyarylsulfone compound, bisphernol A polysulfone, polyether polysulfone, polyphenyl polysulfone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 22, wherein the polysulfone semipermeable membrane includes between about 8 and about 80 percent by weight of the polysulfone compound.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 22, wherein the polysulfone semipermeable membrane includes at least about 25 percent by weight of the polysulfone compound.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 22, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of tetramethylene sulfone, 3-methyl sulfolane, benzophenone, n,n-dimethylacetamide, 2-pyrrolidone, 3-methylsulfolene, pyridine, thiophene, o-dichlorobenzene, 1-chloronaphthalene, methyl salicylate, anisole, o-nitroanisole, diphenyl ether, diphenoxy methane, acetophenone, p-methoxyphenyl-2-ethanol, 2-piperidine, antipyrine, δ -valerolactam, diethyl phthalate, diphenyl sulfone, diphenyl sulfoxide, phthalic acid, dioctyl ester, phthalic acid, dimethyl ester, phthalic acid, diethyl ester, phthalic acid, benzyl butyl ester, phenyl sulfide, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 22, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of tetramethylene sulfone, antipyrine, δ -valerolactam, diethyl phthalate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 22, wherein the non-solvent is selected from the group consisting of 1, 1-diethylurea, 1,3-diethylurea, dinitrotoluene, 1,2-ethane diamine, diphenylamine, toluenediamine, o-toluic acid,

m-toluic acid, toluene-3,4-diamine, dibutyl phthalate, piperidine, decalin, cyclohexane, cyclohexene, chlorocyclohexane, cellosolve solvent, n,n-dimethylbenzylamine, paraffin, mineral oil, mineral wax, tallow amine, triethanol amine, lauryl methacrylate, stearic acid, di(ethylene glycol), tri(ethylene glycol), ethylene glycol, poly(ethylene glycol), tetra(ethylene glycol), glycerin, diethyl adipate, d-sorbitol, chlorotriphenyl stannane, resorcinol, 2-methyl-8-quinolinol, quinaldine, 4-phenylpyridine, phosphorothioic acid, o,o-diethyl o-(p-nitrophenyl) ester, N,Ndimethyl-p-phenylene diamine, 2, 6-dimethoxyphenol, 4-allyl-2-methoxyphenol, phenanthridine, 2-naphthylamine, 1-naphthylamine, 1-naphthol, 2-naphthalenethiol, 1-bromonaphthalene, levulinic acid, phenyl pyrrol-2-yl ketone, phenyl 4-pyridyl ketone, isothiocyanic acid, mnitrophenyl ester, 2-methyl-1H-indole, 4-methyl imidazole, imadazole, 1,7-heptanediol, 9Hfluoren-9-one, 2,2',2"-nitrilotriethanol, 2,2'-iminodiethanol, dibenzofuran, ferrocene. cyclohexaneacetic acid, cyanamide, courmarin, 2,2'-bipyridine, benzoic acid, benzenepropionic 9-methyl-9-azabicyclo(3.3.1)nonan-3-one, chlorodiphenylarsine, acid, o-dinitrobenzene, antimony bromide, p-anisidine, o-anisaldehyde, adiponitrile, p-amino acetophenone, monoacetin, 4-benzoylbiphenyl, methyl oleate, triethylphosphate, diacetin, triacetin, pentoxane, butyrolactone, terphenyl, tetradecanol, polychlorinated biphenyl, myristic acid, methacrylic acid, dodecyl ester, isocyanic acid, methylenedi-p-phenylene ester, 2-((2-hexyloxy)ethoxy) ethanol, 4nitro biphenyl, benzyl ether, benzenesulfonyl chloride, 2,4-diisocyanato-1-1-methyl benzene, 2'-nitro-acetophenone, 1'-acetonaphthone, tetradecanone. adipic acid, diethyl ester, (dichlorophenyl)trichlorosilane, dichlorodiphenyl silane, phosphorothioic acid, o,o-diethyl o-(pnitrophenyl) ester, phosphoric acid, tri-o-tolyl ester, phosphoric acid, triphenyl ester, phosphoric acid, tributyl ester, phenyl phosphorous dichloride, p-nitrophenol, isocyanic acid, methyl-mphenylene ester, 2,2'-iminodiethanol, N-(2-aminoethyl)-N'-(2-((2-aminoethyl)amino)ethyl) 1,2ethanediamine, 2,6-di-tert-butyl p-cresol, chloro biphenyl, 4-biphenylamine, benzyl ether, benzenesulfonyl chloride, 1,2-(methylenedioxy)-4-propenyl benzene, 2,4-diisocyanato-1-methyl chlorodinitro benzene (mixed isomers), hexahydro 2H-azepin-2-one, 4,4'benzene. methylenedianiline, 1'-acetonaphthone, mercapto acetic acid, acetanilide, glycerol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of claim 22, wherein the solvent and non-solvent are present in a ratio of about 2:1 to about 10:1.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of claim 22 wherein the polysulfone compound is composed of bisphenol A polysulfone, wherein the solvent is composed of sulfolane, and wherein the non-solvent is composed of poly(ethylene glycol).

Claim 31 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of claim 30 wherein the composition includes about 30% by weight to about 38% by weight of the polysulfone compound.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A polysulfone semipermeable membrane having a substantially uniform pore structure throughout a thickness dimension of the polysulfone semipermeable membrane, the polysulfone semipermeable membrane being constructed from a melt-spun composition consisting essentially of a polysulfone compound, a solvent for the polysulfone compound selected from the group consisting of tetramethylene sulfone, antipyrine, δ -valerolactam, diethyl phthalate, and mixtures thereof, and a non-solvent.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 32, wherein the non-solvent is selected from the group consisting of 1, 1-diethylurea, 1,3-diethylurea, dinitrotoluene, 1,2-ethane diamine, diphenylamine, toluenediamine, o-toluic acid, m-toluic acid, toluene-3,4-diamine, dibutyl phthalate, piperidine, decalin, cyclohexane, cyclohexene, chlorocyclohexane, cellosolve solvent, n,n-dimethylbenzylamine, paraffin, mineral oil, mineral wax, tallow amine, triethanol amine, lauryl methacrylate, stearic acid, di(ethylene glycol), tri(ethylene glycol), ethylene glycol, poly(ethylene glycol), tetra(ethylene glycol), glycerin, diethyl adipate, d-sorbitol, chlorotriphenyl stannane, resorcinol, 2-methyl-8-quinolinol, quinaldine, 4-phenylpyridine, phosphorothioic acid, o,o-diethyl o-(p-nitrophenyl) ester, N,N-dimethyl-p-phenylene diamine, 2, 6-dimethoxyphenol, 4-allyl-2-methoxyphenol, phenanthridine, 2-naphthylamine, 1-naphthylamine, 1-naphthol, 2-naphthalenethiol, 1-bromonaphthalene,

levulinic acid, phenyl pyrrol-2-yl ketone, phenyl 4-pyridyl ketone, isothiocyanic acid, mnitrophenyl ester, 2-methyl-1H-indole, 4-methyl imidazole, imadazole, 1,7-heptanediol, 9H-2,2',2"-nitrilotriethanol, fluoren-9-one. ferrocene, 2,2'-iminodiethanol, dibenzofuran, cyclohexaneacetic acid, cyanamide, courmarin, 2,2'-bipyridine, benzoic acid, benzenepropionic 9-methyl-9-azabicyclo(3.3.1)nonan-3-one, chlorodiphenylarsine, acid, o-dinitrobenzene, antimony bromide, p-anisidine, o-anisaldehyde, adiponitrile, p-amino acetophenone, monoacetin, pentoxane, 4-benzoylbiphenyl, methyl oleate, triethylphosphate, diacetin. triacetin. butyrolactone, terphenyl, tetradecanol, polychlorinated biphenyl, myristic acid, methacrylic acid, dodecyl ester, isocyanic acid, methylenedi-p-phenylene ester, 2-((2-hexyloxy)ethoxy) ethanol, 4nitro biphenyl, benzyl ether, benzenesulfonyl chloride, 2,4-diisocyanato-1-1-methyl benzene, adipic acid. diethyl ester, 2'-nitro-acetophenone, 1'-acetonaphthone, (dichlorophenyl)trichlorosilane, dichlorodiphenyl silane, phosphorothioic acid, 0,0-diethyl o-(pnitrophenyl) ester, phosphoric acid, tri-o-tolyl ester, phosphoric acid, triphenyl ester, phosphoric acid, tributyl ester, phenyl phosphorous dichloride, p-nitrophenol, isocyanic acid, methyl-mphenylene ester, 2,2'-iminodiethanol, N-(2-aminoethyl)-N'-(2-((2-aminoethyl)amino)ethyl) 1,2ethanediamine, 2.6-di-tert-butyl p-cresol, chloro biphenyl, 4-biphenylamine, benzyl ether, benzenesulfonyl chloride, 1,2-(methylenedioxy)-4-propenyl benzene, 2,4-diisocyanato-1-methyl benzene, chlorodinitro benzene (mixed isomers), hexahydro 2H-azepin-2-one, methylenedianiline, 1'-acetonaphthone, mercapto acetic acid, acetanilide, glycerol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of claim 32, wherein the polysulfone compound is selected from the group consisting of a polyarylsulfone compound, bisphenol A polysulfone, polyether polysulfone, polyphenyl polysulfone and mixtures thereof.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of claim 32, wherein the solvent and non-solvent are present in a ratio of about 2.5:1 to about 4.5:1.

Appl. No. 09/767,558

Claim 36 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of claim 35 wherein the polysulfone compound is composed of bisphenol A polysulfone, wherein the solvent is composed of sulfolane, and wherein the non-solvent is composed of poly(ethlene glycol).

Claim 37 (previously presented): The polysulfone semipermeable membrane of Claim 35 wherein the melt-spun composition includes about 30 to about 38 percent by weight of the polysulfone compound.